

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing Of Claims:

- 1 1. (currently amended) An elastomeric gripping element, configured to fit over a
2 gripping section of an article, said gripping element comprising:
3 ~~a textured~~ a cylindrical member having an outer surface; [[and]]
4 a plurality of elevated sections extending from said outer surface[[:]],
5 wherein said elevated sections are configured to include intercalated, crossed or
6 hexagon shapes; and
7 a band member situated between said cylindrical member and a writing nib, said band
8 member having a diameter greater than the diameter of said cylindrical member sufficiently
9 ~~spaced apart to permit the textured nature of said outer surface to function to inhibit build up~~
10 ~~of dirt and grim in the sunken gaps between said spaced apart shapes.~~
- 1 2. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are raised
2 at least about 0.1 mm above said outer surface.
- 1 3. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are raised
2 at most about 3.0 mm above said outer surface.
- 1 4. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is formed from
2 an anti slip material.
- 1 5. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is formed from
2 a resilient material.
- 1 6. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element is fabricated of
2 a thermoplastic elastomer.
- 1 7. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element has a Shore A
2 hardness of at least about 50 durometer.

1 8. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said grip element has a Shore A
2 hardness of at most about 70 durometer.

1 9. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections are
2 sufficiently spaced apart such that small particles cannot become lodged between said
3 elevated sections and any particle large enough to become lodged between said elevated
4 sections can be readily dislodged.

1 10. (original) The gripping element of claim 1, wherein said elevated sections have a
2 smooth outer surface.

1 11. (new) An elastomeric gripping element, configured to fit over a gripping section of
2 an article, said gripping element comprising:

3 a cylindrical member having an outer surface;

4 a plurality of elevated sections extending from said outer surface,

5 wherein said elevated sections are configured to include intercalated, crossed
6 or hexagon shapes;

7 a conical member having a converging outer surface towards a writing nib of
8 said article; and

9 a band member situated between said conical member and said cylindrical
10 member.

1 12. (new) The elastomeric gripping element recited in Claim 11, wherein said cylindrical
2 member and said conical member are made of the same material.

1 13. (new) An elastomeric gripping element comprising:

2 means for gripping an article; and

3 means for enhancing the grip of said article.